

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Thomas and his Supervisor for taking the time to conduct a personal interview for this patent application on April 22, 2009. During the interview, the prior art of record was discussed, along with addition prior art generally and its relevance to the pending claims. U.S. Patent No. 6,203,011 to Nulph and its differences from the pending claimed were also discussed, particularly Nulph's lack of randomly generated numbers.

Claims 1-62 have been canceled. Claims 63-82 have been added to more clearly and concisely define the invention. Thus, claims 63-82 are presently pending. No new matter has been added. Support for amendments made herein can be found throughout the originally-filed disclosure.

In the pending Office Action, previously-pending claims 2-14, 18-47, 51, 52, 54-58, and 60-62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,203,011 to Nulph in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,308,887 to Korman. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for at least the reasons set forth below, which reasons were discussed in detail in the interview of April 22, 2009.

Claims 63 recites a prepaid wagering card comprising, among other things, one or more wagering entries, each entry comprising a set of randomly generated numbers. Similarly, claim 72 recited a method of providing a prepaid wagering system comprising, among other things, generating at least one set of randomly-generated numbers. Claims 64 and 73 confirm that the wagering entries are not selected by the user. Further, claims 68 and 73 recite more than one wagering entry, wherein the wagering entries can be wagered on different dates.

Nulph does not teach or suggest randomly generated numbers on its card. Nulph instead discloses play spots 420 in the embodiment of FIG. 4. Nulph's play spots are not randomly generated numbers and are not selected by the purchaser. Further, Nulph's card requires that the purchaser activate (and play) the card on a single date, rather than allowing wagering entries to be played on more than one date. According to Nulph, at column 4, lines 39-48, the user selects numbers to play and a "controlling authority" transmits data to the user including instructions on how to modify the card so that it will reflect the user's selected play numbers. The database containing card information is then updated with the user's selected play numbers. Column 5, lines 33-37 state that the controlling authority receives data from the user which can include an indication of which lottery numbers the user wants to play and the play date. Column 5, lines 42-48 then state that after the controlling authority receives the information, it indicates to the user which play spots should be uncovered (i.e., which play spots to uncover to expose the chosen lottery play numbers and the date that the ticket is to be played. This process is also described at column 5, lines 20-31.

Although the word "randomly" appears at line 27 of column 6, it refers only to the fact that the play spots are randomly distributed from ticket to ticket so that a user can't tell where the play spots are on a given ticket based on knowledge of the location of play spots on other tickets. Nulph simply does not contemplate a card with randomly generated numbers unknown to the purchaser when the card is purchased. Nor does Nulph contemplate the user being able to purchase a card without choosing a play date. Further, the play spots 520, 620 in the embodiments of FIGS. 5 and 6 are utilized in an

interactive game embodiment and a score card embodiment that are completely different than the invention as claimed herein.

During the interview, references were discussed that are not of record in this application but which were considered relevant to the claims. Applicants submit that claims 63-82 are patentable over those references as well.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests entry of this Amendment and timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,

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